

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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### ILLINOIS, Northwest

(IL-Z001) JO DAVIESS, (IL-Z002) STEPHENSON, (IL-Z007) CARROLL, (IL-Z009) WHITESIDE, (IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY, (IL-Z017) BUREAU, (IL-Z018) PUTNAM, (IL-Z024) MERCER, (IL-Z025) HENDERSON, (IL-Z026) WARREN

12/03/08 08:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/03/08 18:00 CST	0	

An arctic front swept through the region on December 3, 2008 accompanied by a band of snow behind the frontal passage. Mainly light snow fell for about a 5 to 7 hour period with total accumulations of 2 to 4 inches across eastern Iowa and northwest and western Illinois. The most reported was 4.1 inches at the Quad City International Airport at Moline, Illinois.

(IL-Z001) JO DAVIESS, (IL-Z002) STEPHENSON, (IL-Z007) CARROLL, (IL-Z009) WHITESIDE, (IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY, (IL-Z017) BUREAU, (IL-Z018) PUTNAM, (IL-Z024) MERCER

12/08/08 08:50 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/08/08 12:30 CST	0	

A warm front lifting northward out of Missouri triggered a band of freezing rain just north of the front on December 8, 2008. The freezing rain only lasted about an hour or two during the morning and early afternoon hours at any given location. However, surface temperatures were in the mid to upper 20s resulting in a quick glazing of ice on roads and highways. There were dozens of vehicle accidents with mainly minor injuries. However, an indirect fatality occurred in Bureau county as a result of a vehicle accident on icy roads. Local hospitals also reported some injuries from people falling on the ice.

(IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY

12/14/08 18:35 CST	0	Sleet
12/14/08 20:45 CST	0	

An intense arctic cold front tracked across eastern Iowa and western Illinois on December 14, 2008. There was an incredible 50 degree or more temperature drop over about a 12 hour period after the passage of the front. Afternoon temperatures that were in the 50s had fallen to the single digits and even several degrees below zero by late in the evening. To make matters worse, thunderstorms producing heavy sleet developed in the early evening hours just behind the arctic front. These storms erupted from the Quad Cities to Burlington with sleet accumulations of 1/2 to 1 inch in less than 2 hours.

(IL-Z001) JO DAVIESS, (IL-Z002) STEPHENSON, (IL-Z007) CARROLL, (IL-Z009) WHITESIDE, (IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY, (IL-Z017) BUREAU, (IL-Z018) PUTNAM, (IL-Z024) MERCER, (IL-Z025) HENDERSON, (IL-Z026) WARREN, (IL-Z034) HANCOCK, (IL-Z035) MCDONOUGH

12/16/08 09:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/16/08 23:00 CST	0	

Low pressure developing in the central Rockies brought southerly winds and increasing moisture into the region on December 16, 2008. This warmer air riding atop arctic air entrenched across the area produced about a 12 hour period of light to moderate snow. The snow was quite fluffy but winds were light with little if any blowing or drifting reported. Snow accumulations of 3 to 5 inches were common with isolated amounts near 6 inches in northwest Illinois.

(IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY, (IL-Z017) BUREAU, (IL-Z018) PUTNAM, (IL-Z024) MERCER, (IL-Z025) HENDERSON, (IL-Z026) WARREN, (IL-Z034) HANCOCK, (IL-Z035) MCDONOUGH

12/18/08 18:30 CST	0	Ice Storm
12/19/08 10:00 CST	0	

(IL-Z007) CARROLL, (IL-Z009) WHITESIDE

12/18/08 20:30 CST	0	Winter Storm
12/19/08 09:30 CST	0	

(IL-Z001) JO DAVIESS, (IL-Z002) STEPHENSON

12/18/08 22:00 CST	0	Heavy Snow
12/19/08 09:45 CST	0	

A major winter storm tracked from eastern Colorado to northern Missouri and then to central Illinois December 18-19, 2008, and was the most significant winter event of the month. Heavy snow accumulations of 6 to 10 inches were widespread across northeast Iowa and northwest Illinois, mainly north of Highway 30. Roughly along the Interstate 80 corridor, 2 to 4 inches of sleet and up to 1/2 inch ice accumulations were reported. Locations south of I-80 in southeast Iowa, western Illinois and northeast Missouri experienced a major ice storm. Ice accumulations of 1/4 to nearly 1 inch were common, with many trees and branches down due to the weight of the ice. Scattered thunderstorms also developed helping to produce the heavy precipitation amounts. Power outages of up to a week occurred,

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especially in western Illinois, due to the ice storm.

(IL-Z001) JO DAVIESS, (IL-Z002) STEPHENSON, (IL-Z007) CARROLL, (IL-Z009) WHITESIDE, (IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY, (IL-Z017) BUREAU, (IL-Z018) PUTNAM, (IL-Z024) MERCER

12/21/08 02:00 CST	0	Blizzard
12/21/08 18:00 CST	0	

A powerful arctic cold front swept across the region on December 20-21, 2008. Ahead of the front, 1 to 3 inches of fluffy snow fell during the afternoon of December 20. The snow was confined to locations in Iowa and Illinois along and north of Interstate 80. After this snowfall ended by evening, snow depths north of Highway 34 ranged from 5 to 12 inches. With the passage of the arctic cold front, northwest winds gradually increased to 20 to 35 mph with gusts to 45 mph late in the evening on December 20 through the day on December 21. This created ground blizzard conditions with frequent whiteouts as visibilities were reduced to 1/4 mile or less, especially in rural and open areas. With temperatures below zero, wind chill readings were as low as 30 to 40 below zero. The combination of blizzard conditions and very cold temperatures made for a dangerous situation.

(IL-Z001) JO DAVIESS, (IL-Z002) STEPHENSON, (IL-Z007) CARROLL, (IL-Z009) WHITESIDE, (IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY, (IL-Z017) BUREAU, (IL-Z018) PUTNAM, (IL-Z024) MERCER

12/24/08 04:40 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/24/08 12:30 CST	0	

Low pressure moved from southeast Colorado to central Missouri and then into southern Lower Michigan on December 23-24, 2008. This spread an area of snow across much of eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois on December 24. The snow fell during a 7 to 12 hour period and accumulated to 2 to 4 inches.

(IL-Z001) JO DAVIESS, (IL-Z002) STEPHENSON, (IL-Z007) CARROLL, (IL-Z009) WHITESIDE, (IL-Z015) ROCK ISLAND, (IL-Z016) HENRY, (IL-Z017) BUREAU, (IL-Z018) PUTNAM, (IL-Z024) MERCER, (IL-Z025) HENDERSON, (IL-Z026) WARREN, (IL-Z034) HANCOCK, (IL-Z035) MCDONOUGH

12/26/08 12:15 CST	0	Dense Fog
12/27/08 09:30 CST	0	

A strong low pressure system in the southern Plains pulled warm and moist gulf air northward into much of the Midwest. This airmass flowing over a 6 to 12 inch snow depth, caused widespread dense fog to form across eastern Iowa and northwest and western Illinois. Frequent visibilities were less than 1/4 mile making travel difficult. The fog became dense during the afternoon hours of December 26, finally dissipating in the morning of December 27 as a cold front moved through the region, bringing drier and colder air.

HANCOCK COUNTY --- 1.7 NW SUTTER [40.30, -91.35], 1.7 NE SUTTER [40.30, -91.31], 1.7 SE SUTTER [40.26, -91.31], 1.7 SW SUTTER [40.26, -91.35]

12/27/08 04:35 CST	0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
12/27/08 08:35 CST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

Road just north of Sutter reported to be flooded by several inches of water over the road and impassable.

Strong low pressure in the southern Plains brought a surge of gulf moisture northward into the region, as a cold front approached from the west. Thunderstorms erupted over western Illinois dumping 1 to 2 inches of rain, which caused isolated flash flooding.

HANCOCK COUNTY --- 2.7 ESE CARTHAGE [40.41, -91.08]

12/27/08 10:11 CST	0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 65 kt)
12/27/08 10:13 CST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

Law enforcement reported power poles snapped off and half of a barn roof blown off about 2 miles southeast of Carthage. Winds were estimated at 75 mph.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY --- 0.7 S MACOMB [40.46, -90.67]

12/27/08 11:06 CST	0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 60 kt)
12/27/08 11:08 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

A trained spotter reported trees down near Macomb.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY --- 0.3 E NEW PHILADELPHIA [40.48, -90.46], 0.6 ENE NEW PHILADELPHIA [40.48, -90.46]

12/27/08 11:20 CST	0	Tornado (EF0, L: 0.30 mi, W: 50 yd)
12/27/08 11:21 CST	0	Source: Public

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A brief tornado touchdown occurred at about 1120 am CST 1/3 mile east of New Philadelphia near Highway 95. The EF0 tornado, about 50 yards in width, struck a garage tearing the roof off and blowing the back of the garage away. The debris littered a nearby field for up to 1/3 mile from where the garage had been. A person in the garage at the time was not injured, but described being blasted with a "terrific wind filled with grass and leaves". The person also stated the event was "over as fast as it had started". The temperature at the time of the tornado was 61F which was unseasonably warm for the end of December. Winds were estimated at 80 mph.

Strong low pressure tracked from Oklahoma to northern Illinois on December 27, 2008. Unseasonably warm moist air flowing northward ahead of the low, combined with a strong cold front approaching from the west, triggered isolated severe thunderstorms in western Illinois.

These storms formed during the morning hours while temperatures were in the lower 60s. Near Carthage, power poles were snapped and half of a barn roof was blown off. Near New Philadelphia, an EF0 tornado with winds estimated at 80 mph, briefly touched down. A garage was destroyed with the debris field extending about a third of a mile.

### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

(IA-Z040) BUCHANAN, (IA-Z041) DELAWARE, (IA-Z042) DUBUQUE, (IA-Z051) BENTON, (IA-Z052) LINN, (IA-Z053) JONES, (IA-Z054) JACKSON, (IA-Z063) IOWA, (IA-Z064) JOHNSON, (IA-Z065) CEDAR, (IA-Z066) CLINTON, (IA-Z067) MUSCATINE, (IA-Z068) SCOTT, (IA-Z076) KEOKUK, (IA-Z077) WASHINGTON, (IA-Z078) LOUISA, (IA-Z087) JEFFERSON, (IA-Z088) HENRY, (IA-Z089) DES MOINES, (IA-Z098) VAN BUREN, (IA-Z099) LEE	12/03/08 05:30 CST	0	Winter Weather
	12/03/08 16:10 CST	0	

An arctic front swept through the region on December 3, 2008 accompanied by a band of snow behind the frontal passage. Mainly light snow fell for about a 5 to 7 hour period with total accumulations of 2 to 4 inches across eastern Iowa and northwest and western Illinois. The most reported was 4.1 inches at the Quad City International Airport at Moline, Illinois. Two indirect fatalities occurred in eastern Iowa due to vehicle accidents on snow and ice covered highways, one in Iowa county and the other in Louisa county.

(IA-Z040) BUCHANAN, (IA-Z041) DELAWARE, (IA-Z042) DUBUQUE, (IA-Z051) BENTON, (IA-Z052) LINN, (IA-Z053) JONES, (IA-Z054) JACKSON, (IA-Z063) IOWA, (IA-Z064) JOHNSON, (IA-Z065) CEDAR, (IA-Z066) CLINTON, (IA-Z067) MUSCATINE, (IA-Z068) SCOTT, (IA-Z076) KEOKUK, (IA-Z077) WASHINGTON, (IA-Z078) LOUISA	12/08/08 09:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
	12/08/08 12:10 CST	0	

A warm front lifting northward out of Missouri triggered a band of freezing rain just north of the front on December 8, 2008. The freezing rain only lasted about an hour or two during the morning and early afternoon hours at any given location. However, surface temperatures were in the mid to upper 20s resulting in a quick glazing of ice on roads and highways. There were dozens of vehicle accidents with mainly minor injuries. Local hospitals also reported some injuries from people falling on the ice.

(IA-Z040) BUCHANAN, (IA-Z041) DELAWARE, (IA-Z042) DUBUQUE, (IA-Z051) BENTON, (IA-Z052) LINN, (IA-Z053) JONES, (IA-Z063) IOWA	12/08/08 17:30 CST	0	Ice Storm
	12/09/08 07:00 CST	0	

Low pressure tracked from northern Missouri to Indiana on December 8-9, 2008. Warmer air in the lower levels of the atmosphere ahead of the storm system caused precipitation to be in the liquid form. However, surface temperatures were below freezing and the result was an ice storm across portions of northeast Iowa. Ice accumulations of 1/4 to 0.3 inch were common along and northwest of a Williamsburg to Dubuque line.

(IA-Z068) SCOTT, (IA-Z089) DES MOINES, (IA-Z099) LEE	12/14/08 17:00 CST	0	Sleet
	12/14/08 19:30 CST	0	

An intense arctic cold front tracked across eastern Iowa and western Illinois on December 14, 2008. There was an incredible 50 degree or more temperature drop over about a 12 hour period after the passage of the front. Afternoon temperatures that were in the 50s had fallen to the single digits and even several degrees below zero by late in the evening. To make matters worse, thunderstorms producing heavy sleet developed in the early evening hours just behind the arctic front. These storms erupted from the Quad Cities to Burlington with sleet accumulations of 1/2 to 1 inch in less than 2 hours.

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	12/16/08 23:00 CST	0	

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2008

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Low pressure developing in the central Rockies brought southerly winds and increasing moisture into the region on December 16, 2008. This warmer air riding atop arctic air entrenched across the area produced about a 12 hour period of light to moderate snow. The snow was quite fluffy but winds were light with little if any blowing or drifting reported. Snow accumulations of 3 to 5 inches were common with isolated amounts near 6 inches in northwest Illinois.

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(IA-Z067) MUSCATINE, (IA-Z076) KEOKUK, (IA-Z077) WASHINGTON, (IA-Z078) LOUISA, (IA-Z087) JEFFERSON, (IA-Z088) HENRY, (IA-Z089) DES MOINES, (IA-Z098) VAN BUREN, (IA-Z099) LEE

12/18/08 18:00 CST	0	Ice Storm
12/19/08 09:35 CST	0	

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(IA-Z040) BUCHANAN, (IA-Z041) DELAWARE, (IA-Z042) DUBUQUE, (IA-Z051) BENTON, (IA-Z052) LINN, (IA-Z053) JONES, (IA-Z054) JACKSON

12/18/08 19:15 CST	0	Heavy Snow
12/19/08 09:00 CST	0	

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(IA-Z063) IOWA, (IA-Z064) JOHNSON, (IA-Z065) CEDAR, (IA-Z066) CLINTON, (IA-Z068) SCOTT

12/18/08 19:15 CST	0	Winter Storm
12/19/08 09:00 CST	0	

A major winter storm tracked from eastern Colorado to northern Missouri and then to central Illinois December 18-19, 2008, and was the most significant winter event of the month. Heavy snow accumulations of 6 to 10 inches were widespread across northeast Iowa and northwest Illinois, mainly north of Highway 30. Roughly along the Interstate 80 corridor, 2 to 4 inches of sleet and up to 1/2 inch ice accumulations were reported. Locations south of I-80 in southeast Iowa, western Illinois and northeast Missouri experienced a major ice storm. Ice accumulations of 1/4 to nearly 1 inch were common, with many trees and branches down due to the weight of the ice. Scattered thunderstorms also developed helping to produce the heavy precipitation amounts. Power outages of up to a week occurred, especially in western Illinois, due to the ice storm.

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12/20/08 08:00 CST	0	Blizzard
12/21/08 17:00 CST	0	

A powerful arctic cold front swept across the region on December 20-21, 2008. Ahead of the front, 1 to 3 inches of fluffy snow fell during the afternoon of December 20. The snow was confined to locations in Iowa and Illinois along and north of Interstate 80. After this snowfall ended by evening, snow depths north of Highway 34 ranged from 5 to 12 inches. With the passage of the arctic cold front, northwest winds gradually increased to 20 to 35 mph with gusts to 45 mph late in the evening on December 20 through the day on December 21. This created ground blizzard conditions with frequent whiteouts as visibilities were reduced to 1/4 mile or less, especially in rural and open areas. Some drifts on highways were as high as 6 feet. With temperatures below zero, wind chill readings were as low as 30 to 40 below zero. The combination of blizzard conditions and very cold temperatures made for a potentially dangerous situation.

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(IA-Z040) BUCHANAN, (IA-Z041) DELAWARE, (IA-Z042) DUBUQUE, (IA-Z051) BENTON, (IA-Z052) LINN, (IA-Z053) JONES, (IA-Z054) JACKSON, (IA-Z063) IOWA, (IA-Z064) JOHNSON, (IA-Z065) CEDAR, (IA-Z066) CLINTON, (IA-Z067) MUSCATINE, (IA-Z068) SCOTT, (IA-Z076) KEOKUK, (IA-Z077) WASHINGTON, (IA-Z078) LOUISA, (IA-Z087) JEFFERSON, (IA-Z088) HENRY

12/24/08 02:30 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/24/08 15:00 CST	0	

Low pressure moved from southeast Colorado to central Missouri and then into southern Lower Michigan on December 23-24, 2008. This spread an area of snow across much of eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois on December 24. The snow fell during a 7 to 12 hour period and accumulated to 2 to 4 inches.

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12/26/08 12:30 CST	0	Dense Fog
12/27/08 09:00 CST	0	

A strong low pressure system in the southern Plains pulled warm and moist gulf air northward into much of the Midwest. This airmass flowing over a 6 to 12 inch snow depth, caused widespread dense fog to form across eastern Iowa and northwest and western Illinois. Frequent visibilities were less than 1/4 mile making travel difficult. The fog became dense during the afternoon hours of December 26, finally dissipating in the morning of December 27 as a cold front moved through the region, bringing drier and colder air.

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(IA-Z051) BENTON, (IA-Z063) IOWA

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	12/27/08 08:00 CST		0	Ice Storm
	12/27/08 15:00 CST		0	

A strong cold front pushing eastward into eastern Iowa allowed temperatures to fall to below freezing on December 27, 2008. However, warmer air above the surface allowed for several hours of freezing rain to occur, west of Interstate 380. Ice accumulations of 1/4 to 1/2 inch were observed in Benton and Iowa counties of eastern Iowa.

### MISSOURI, Northeast

(MO-Z009) SCOTLAND, (MO-Z010) CLARK

12/16/08 08:30 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/16/08 22:00 CST	0	

Low pressure developing in the central Rockies brought southerly winds and increasing moisture into the region on December 16, 2008. This warmer air riding atop arctic air entrenched across the area produced about a 12 hour period of light to moderate snow. The snow was quite fluffy but winds were light with little if any blowing or drifting reported. Snow accumulations of 3 to 5 inches were common across northeast Missouri.

(MO-Z009) SCOTLAND, (MO-Z010) CLARK

12/18/08 17:45 CST	0	Ice Storm
12/19/08 09:00 CST	0	

A major winter storm tracked from eastern Colorado to northern Missouri and then to central Illinois December 18-19, 2008, and was the most significant winter event of the month. Heavy snow accumulations of 6 to 10 inches were widespread across northeast Iowa and northwest Illinois, mainly north of Highway 30. Roughly along the Interstate 80 corridor, 2 to 4 inches of sleet and up to 1/2 inch ice accumulations were reported. Locations south of I-80 in southeast Iowa, western Illinois and northeast Missouri experienced a major ice storm. Ice accumulations of 1/4 to nearly 1 inch were common, with many trees and branches down due to the weight of the ice. Scattered thunderstorms also developed helping to produce the heavy precipitation amounts. Power outages of up to a week occurred, especially in western Illinois, due to the ice storm.